

CLAIMS:

1. A method of synchronizing audio output and video output in an audiovisual system (100, 200, 300), comprising the steps of:

- receiving an audio signal and a video signal,
- providing the audio signal to a loudspeaker (112, 212, 312),
- 5 - analyzing the audio signal, including identifying at least one aural event from the audio signal,
- providing the video signal to a display unit (114, 206, 306),
- analyzing the video signal, including identifying at least one visual event from the video signal,
- 10 - associating the aural event with the visual event, including calculating a time difference between the aural event and the visual event,
- applying a delay on at least one of the audio signal and the video signal, the value of which delay being dependent on the calculated time difference between the aural event and the visual event, thereby synchronizing the audio output and the video output.

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2. The method of claim 1, in which the step of analyzing the video signal is performed subsequent to any video processing of the signal.

3. The method according to claim 1 or 2, in which the step of analyzing the audio signal is performed subsequent to the audio signal being emitted by the loudspeaker and received via a microphone (122, 222).

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4. The method according to any of claims 1 to 3, in which the audio signal and the video signal comprise a test signal having substantially simultaneous visual and aural events.

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5. The method according to any of claims 1 to 4, further comprising the step of storing the value of the delay.

6. The method according to claim 5, wherein stored delay values are associated with information regarding a respective source of the audio and video signal.

7. The method according to claim 6, further comprising the steps of:

- 5 - receiving identification information regarding a source of the audio signal and the video signal, and
- associating the delay value with the information regarding the source of the audio and video signal.

10 8. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the steps of:

- receiving an audio signal and a video signal,
- providing the audio signal to a loudspeaker,
- analyzing the audio signal, including identifying at least one aural event from the audio signal,
- 15 - providing the video signal to a display unit,
- analyzing the video signal, including identifying at least one visual event from the video signal,
- associating the aural event with the visual event, including calculating a time difference between the aural event and the visual event, and
- 20 - applying a delay on at least one of the audio signal and the video signal, the value of which delay being dependent on the calculated time difference between the aural event and the visual event, are continuously repeated and thereby providing a dynamic synchronization of the audio output and the video output.

25 9. A system (131) for synchronizing audio output and video output in an audiovisual system (100, 200, 300), comprising:

- means (106) for analyzing signals from a signal source (102), including identifying at least one aural event from an audio part of the signals from the signal source and identifying at least one visual event from a video part of the signals from the signal
- 30 source,
- means (106) for associating the aural event with the visual event, including calculating a time difference between the aural event and the visual event,
- means (106) for applying a delay on one of the audio signal and the video signal, the value of which delay being dependent on the calculated time difference between

the aural event and the visual event, thereby synchronizing the audio output and the video output, and

- means (124, 126) for providing the audio signal and the video signal to a loudspeaker (112, 222, 322) and a display (114, 206, 306), respectively.

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10. The system according to claim 9, in which means for analyzing the video signal are located subsequent to any means for processing the video signal.

11. The system according to claim 9 or 10, in which means for analyzing the audio
10 signal is configured to receive the audio signal via a microphone (122).

12. The system according to any of claims 9 to 11, further comprising means (108) for storing the value of the delay.

15 13. The system according to claim 12, further comprising:
- means for receiving identification information regarding a source of the audio signal and the video signal, and
- means for associating the delay value with the information regarding the source of the audio and video signal.

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14. A computer program product comprising code to enable a processor to execute the method of claim 1.